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URBAN DISTRICT OF SEDGLEY



# Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1956



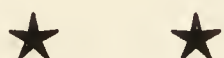
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URBAN DISTRICT OF SEDGLEY



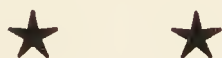
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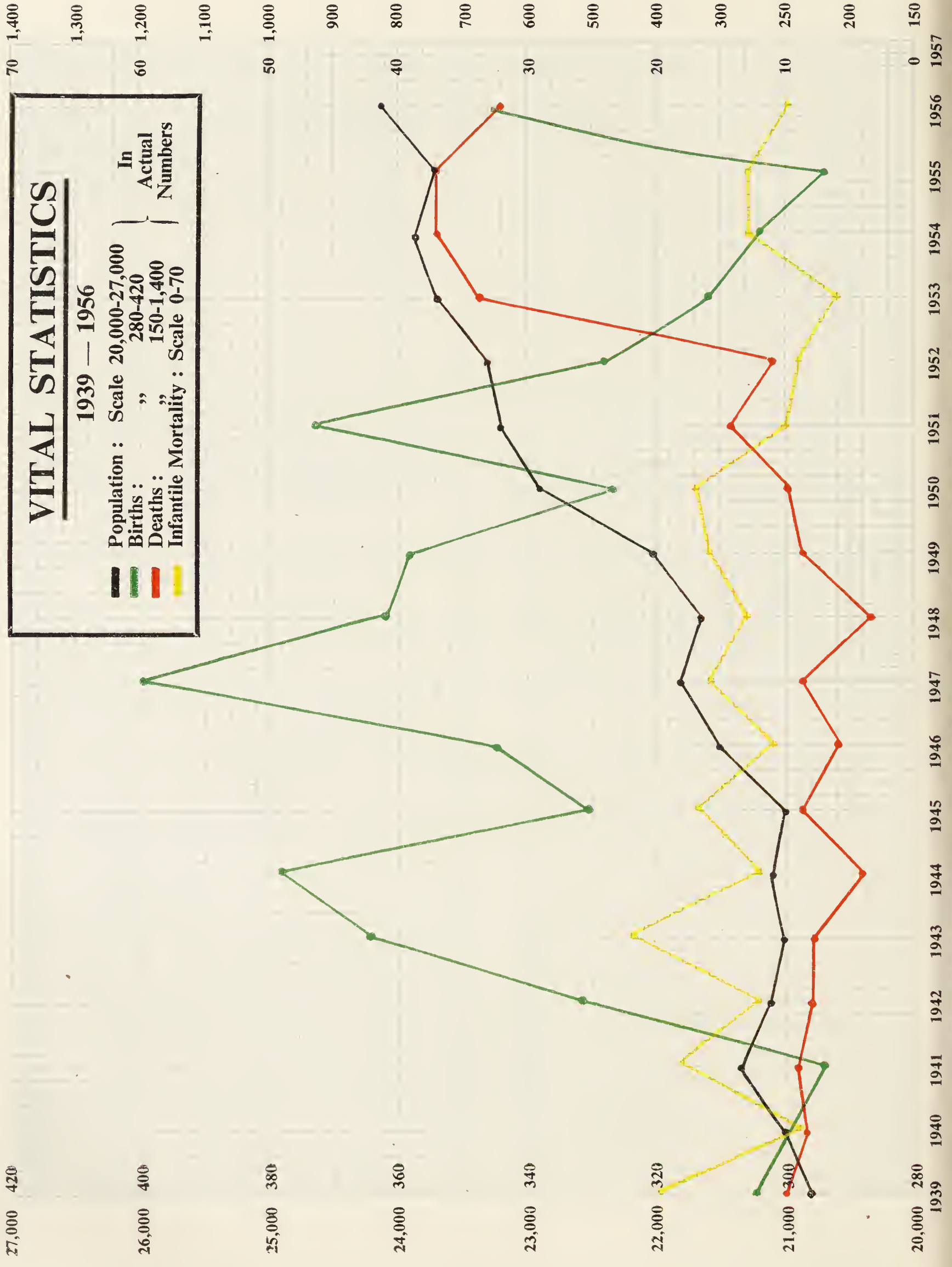
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# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1956

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## Chairman of the Health Committee :

COUNCILLOR MRS. E. E. WILLIAMS, J.P.

## Medical Officer of Health :

S. C. J. FALKMAN, L.R.C.P. (Ed.), L.R.C.S. (Ed.), L.R.F.P. and  
S. (Glas.), L.M.Rotunda (Dublin), D.R.C.O.G. (London),  
D.P.H. (Durham)

Fellow of the Society of Medical Officers of Health

Member of the British Medical Association

Member of the Medical Protection Society.

## Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent :

DAVID J. W. ROBERTSON, Cert. S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I., M.Inst.P.C.,  
Cert. Meat and Food Inspector.

## Additional Public Health Inspectors :

R. B. M. ANDERSON, A.R.S.H., A.I.P.H.E., M.R.I.P.H.H.,  
M.A.P.H.I., Cert. Meat and Food Inspector.

J. KIRK, Cert. S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I., Cert. Meat and Food Inspector.

## Public Health Clerks :

MRS. F. DETHERIDGE

MISS S. A. OAKLEY

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
of the  
**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**  
for the  
**URBAN DISTRICT OF SEDGLEY**

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*To the Chairman and Members of the Sedgley Urban District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I herewith submit to you my Annual Report for the year 1956, which shows a favourable picture with regard to the Vital Statistics. There has been a substantially increased rate in Births from 12.34 in 1955 to 14.29. The Death Rate fell from 30.58 to 26.60 in 1956 whereas the population rose from 23,740 to 24,130.

The Infantile Mortality has also manifested a declining curve and decreased from a rate of 44.37 in 1955 to 28.98 during the year. In total 10 Infantile Deaths were reported including the deaths in Burton Road Hospital. The Infantile Death Rate for Sedgley proper is 17.39 based on 6 Infantile Deaths of which 3 were caused by peri-natal mortality such as Atelectasis and Prematurity.

With regard to Infectious Disease we are grateful to state that the year has passed uneventfully. A total of 123 notifications were received against 548 notifications in 1955 mainly due to a heavy incidence of Measles. In 1956 Whooping Cough accounted for a total of 104 notifications and it is remarkable how Measles and Whooping Cough seem to appear in alternating waves. No cases of Poliomyelitis or Food Poisoning occurred during the year.

The deaths from Tuberculosis amounted to 5 with 17 notifications of new cases. An increase of 2 deaths and a decrease of one notification have therefore been recorded. In Infectious Disease numbers have always to be judged against population figures and the types of population. Obviously in populations where there is a high birth rate the number of infants and children will be greater than in a population where the birth rate is low. In consequence a far higher number of infantile and children's diseases such as Measles and Whooping Cough will be recorded. With Tuberculosis a decrease in notifications with an increasing population is a most favourable sign and I am satisfied that the Council's Housing Committee has made a most valuable contribution in the conquest of this disease by their unfailing attention given to Tuberculosis rehousing.



Other housing and rehousing problems have been mentioned in the appropriate sections of the Report.

The Food Hygiene Regulations 1955 came into force on the 1st July, 1956, and this subject has held my special attention as a low standard in Food Hygiene is still one of the most potent sources of epidemiological outbreaks. In the Report the problems connected with it have been fully outlined.

The Water Supply in the Urban District has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity and the Surveyor in his contribution to the Report has mentioned that the scheme for the extension of the Lower Gornal Sewage Disposal Works was likely to be submitted to the Ministry early in 1957. He has also outlined the necessity of extending the Gospel End Sewage plant and the need to replace cesspools.

The Municipal Cemetery has so far not been called upon to accommodate a great amount of burials probably due to available space in Church and Chapel graveyards. Work on the access road and site works for the Crematorium were started during the year.

In conclusion I wish to emphasize the necessity of having the Annual Report presented at the earliest possible date as requested by the Minister in Circular 2/53. All the necessary information is in the hands of the Health Inspectors in the beginning of the year and it is only a matter of routine to have this information available for the Medical Officer of Health in the first quarter of the year. In addition it has been clearly outlined in the Sanitary Officers (outside London) Regulations 1935 that it is the duty of the Chief Health Inspector and his colleagues to provide this information as soon as practicable after the 31st day of December in each year. As the Annual Reports in Sedgley are perpetually late I shall be grateful for an improvement in the matter with regard to the Annual Report for the year 1957.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

S. C. J. FALKMAN,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

## STATISTICAL SUMMARY 1956

Area: 3,830 acres.

Population: 24,130.

Number of Inhabited Houses: 7,305.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate: £810.

Rateable Value: £210,553.

General Rate: 16/6d.

Birth Rate: 14.29; England and Wales 15.7

Average Birth Rate for ten previous years 15.02 (Sedgley).

Death Rate: 26.605; England and Wales 11.7

Average Death Rate for ten previous years: 16.54 (Sedgley).

Infantile Death Rate, per 1,000 Births: 28.98

England and Wales: 23.8

Average Infantile Death Rate for ten previous years 36.46  
(Sedgley).

Deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis: 5

From other Tuberculosis Diseases: 0

Respiratory Tuberculosis Death Rate: .207

From other Tuberculosis Diseases: 0

Average death rate from Respiratory Tuberculosis for ten previous years: .294 (Sedgley).

Average death rate from other forms of Tuberculosis for ten previous years: .039 (Sedgley).

The Numbers of deaths and death rates per million population for England and Wales during the year 1956 are as follows:—

	NUMBERS			RATE		
	Males	Fe- males	Per- sons	Males	Fe- males	Per- sons
Respiratory Tuberculosis	3,533	1,318	4,851	164	57	109
Other Tuberculosis	.. 271	251	522	13	11	12

## VITAL STATISTICS

		TOTAL	M.	F.	Birth Rate
Live Births	.. ..	345	160	185	14.29
Legitimate	..	336	156	180	
Illegitimate	..	9	4	5	

Stillbirths: Total 7. Rate per 1,000 Total Births .. 19.88

Number of women dying in or in consequence of Childbirth: 1

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births (10) .. .. 28.98

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births: 29.76

Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births: –

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) .. .. 70

Deaths from Measles (all ages) .. .. –

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) .. .. –

Deaths from Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea .. 3

## CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1956

	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory .. .. .	4	1
2. Tuberculosis, other... .. .	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease .. .. .	2	—
4. Diphtheria .. .. .	—	—
5. Whooping Cough .. .. .	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections .. .. .	—	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis .. .. .	—	—
8. Measles .. .. .	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases .. .. .	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach .. .. .	4	4
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus .. .. .	18	—
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast .. .. .	—	8
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus .. .. .	—	7
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms .. .. .	18	11
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia .. .. .	1	1
16. Diabetes .. .. .	3	7
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system .. .. .	53	40
18. Coronary disease, angina .. .. .	23	11
19. Hypertension with heart disease .. .. .	3	4
20. Other heart disease.. .. .	70	81
21. Other circulatory disease .. .. .	14	10
22. Influenza .. .. .	1	—
23. Pneumonia .. .. .	6	3
24. Bronchitis .. .. .	33	11
25. Other diseases of respiratory system .. .. .	3	—
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum .. .. .	2	—
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea .. .. .	—	3
28. Nephritis and nephrosis .. .. .	1	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate .. .. .	3	—
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion .. .. .	—	1
31. Congenital malformations.. .. .	1	3
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases .. .. .	73	80
33. Motor vehicle accidents .. .. .	1	2
34. All other accidents .. .. .	8	3
35. Suicide .. .. .	3	2
36. Homicide and operations of war .. .. .	—	—
TOTAL ..	348	294



# AGE-GROUPS and LOCALITY-DISTRIBUTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (excluding Tuberculosis) notified in 1956

DISEASE	Total All Ages	Sex		Under 1 year	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	65 and over	Sedgley	Upper Gornal	Lower Gornal	Goldthorn Park	No. of Deaths in 1956	
		M.	F.														M.	F.
Scarlet Fever ..	5	3	2	—	1	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	2	—	—
Whooping Cough ..	104	40	64	4	19	36	44	1	—	—	—	—	49	16	39	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ..	4	1	3	—	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ..	8	5	3	1	1	1	—	1	1	1	2	—	3	—	3	2	6	3
Dysentery ..	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	1	1	—	—	—	—	1.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	123	50	73	5	23	38	50	2	2	1	2	—	58	17	44	4	6	3



### INFANTILE MORTALITY 1956

Nett Deaths from causes stated at various ages under one year of age

Cause of Death	Under 1 week	1 to 2 weeks	2 to 3 weeks	3 to 4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1 to 3 months	3 to 6 months	6 to 9 months	9 to 12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Atelectasis .. ..	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Prematurity .. ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Asphyxia .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Acute Bronchitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Laparotomy and Intussusception ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
In Burton Rd. Hospital	3	—	—	—	3	1	1	1	—	6
Spina Bifida .. ..	—	1	1	—	2	1	—	—	—	3
Congenital heart disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
	3	1	1	—	5	2	1	2	—	10

Infantile Death Rate:—

Sedgley Proper: 17.39.

Total Infantile Death Rate: 28.98.

### OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

No case of the disease was notified in the Sedgley Urban District during the year.

## HEALTH SERVICES

The Medical Officer of Health holds office in virtue of a joint appointment by the Sedgley Urban District Council, the Tettenhall Urban District Council and the Staffordshire County Council. Of his time 5/11ths is devoted to the Sedgley Urban District, 2/11ths to the Tettenhall Urban District and 4/11ths to the Staffordshire County Council. As Assistant County Medical Officer he is in charge of School Medical Inspections, School Clinics, Minor Ailment Clinics, and Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics. He further deals with examinations under the Children and Young Persons Act, 1933, Ascertainment of Handicapped Pupils and Medical Examinations of Entrants to the Teaching Profession. In addition to the General Public Health duties for the Urban Districts the Medical Officer of Health also examines Applicants for Superannuation purposes.

The Chief Health Inspector who is also a qualified Meat and Food Inspector is a full time officer appointed solely by the Local Authority. His duties are concerned with General Sanitation and Food Hygiene, Housing and Re-housing, Demolition and Slum Clearance, Improvement Grants and the issuing of Certificates of Disrepair. He further deals with Meat Inspection, Public Cleansing, with the provisions of the Shops Acts and acts as Rodent Officer, Welfare Officer in Civil Defence, and as Inspector of Taxi Cabs. In these duties he is assisted by two additional Health Inspectors.

All the functions of the Health Department are discharged under the general direction and supervision of the Medical Officer of Health, according to Sec. 27 of the Sanitary Officers (outside London) Regulations, 1935.

Public Health and Sanitary matters are brought forward in the Public Health Committee, while Housing and Rehousing matters are dealt with in the Housing Committee and the Housing (Tenancies) Committee. These three Committees meet once monthly.

Three Health Visitors under the direction of the Local Health Authority cover the areas in Goldthorn Park, Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal. Since the inception of the National Health Service Act, 1946, from the 5th July, 1948, the Health Services are provided by the County Council as the Local Health Authority and the following services have therefore become a County Council responsibility:—

1. Care of Mothers and Young Children.
2. Domiciliary Midwifery.
3. Health Visiting.
4. Home Nursing.
5. Vaccination and Immunisation.
6. Ambulance Services.
7. Prevention of Illness; Care and After-Care.
8. Domestic Help Service.



9. Duties concerned with Lunacy and Mental Health.
10. Provision of Health Centres.

No Health Centres are in existence in the Sedgley Urban District but negotiations have continued for some time with the Local Health Authority regarding future sites and the construction of such centres.

### **SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES**

The Medical Inspection of School Children is provided by the County Council who have also established Ophthalmic, Dental and Orthopaedic Clinics. The various age groups are examined periodically and from the School Inspections referred to these Clinics or to the General Practitioner if so required.

Cod Liver Oil is provided for cases of under-nutrition or under-development. In cases of Infectious Disease, and if deemed necessary, special steps are taken in conjunction with the School Authorities to exclude scholars, who have been in contact with such disease. Protective measures, immunisation and isolation are furthermore under the direction of the Health Department.

The School-, Dental-, E.N.T.- and Eye Clinics provided in the Urban District are given in a separate table together with sessions for Speech Therapy and Physiotherapy.

### **MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE**

The Staffordshire County Council maintains Ante-Natal and Child Welfare Centres in the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal areas. The Regional Hospital Board provides in addition Ante-Natal Clinics in their own Hospitals and Departments in the Wolverhampton, Dudley and Birmingham areas which are easily accessible to the population of the Urban District.

The Rosemary Ednam Maternity Home which forms part of the Burton Road Hospital, and Wordsley Hospital, are under the administration of the Regional Hospital Board. They provide accommodation for cases referred or booked from the Ante-Natal Clinics or by General Practitioners. Cases wishing to remain at home are delivered by the County Midwives, who, if so required, can call for the obstetric assistance of a General Practitioner.

The Staffordshire County Council also provides for the care and treatment of deformed, mentally sub-normal and handicapped children. These cases are selected from School Medical Inspections and Child Welfare Clinics or referred by General Practitioners. Illegitimate, homeless and neglected children are provided for in the Nurseries, Children's Homes and Remand Homes of the County.

### **NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948**

Since the passing of this Act the former Public Assistance Services ceased and were taken over by the National Assistance Board under the Ministry of National Insurance. The functions of the Relieving Officers have therefore been discontinued and replaced by the Officers of the National Assistance Board. The National Assistance Board holds no office in the Sedgley Urban District.

As under the National Health Insurance everyone is now medically insured, the medical supervision and treatment of necessitous cases has become the responsibility of the Medical Practitioners and the Regional Hospital Board. Other classes of necessitous cases, such as homeless, abandoned or neglected individuals, are the responsibility of the County Welfare Authorities.

### **INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

Hospital treatment for cases suffering from Infectious Disease and in need of such treatment is provided in Moxley Hospital and the Stallings Lane Hospital. Hospital admissions and discharges from and to the Sedgley Urban District are notified to the Sedgley Health Department. These hospitals are under the control of the Birmingham Hospital Board.

### **TUBERCULOSIS**

Institutions are maintained by the Regional Hospital Board for the treatment of persons suffering from Tuberculosis. No Tuberculosis Dispensary is operated in the Sedgley Urban District. The visiting of Tuberculous patients with their care and after-care is under the administration of the County Council. Dispensaries are situated at Dudley and Wolverhampton and several sanatoria are available.

### **SMALLPOX**

Cases of suspected Smallpox are notified to the Smallpox Consultant in cases of doubt who then takes further charge of the disposal of the case. Local protective and preventive measures are under the direction of the Health Department.

### **VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION**

The County Council does not provide for a Vaccination Centre in Sedgley, but arrangements can be made with the Medical Practitioner by those who wish themselves or their children vaccinated.

Immunisation against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough and Poliomyelitis Vaccination is undertaken in the Child Welfare and School Clinics, while special Immunisation Sessions in Schools provide for an increase in the immunity of the child population.

Diphtheria Antitoxin is supplied by the Area Office in Brierley Hill to the Child Welfare Clinics and through the Sedgley Public Health Department to the General Practitioners of the Urban District. Vaccination Lymph can be obtained from the Public Health Laboratory in Stafford.



### AMBULANCES

The Ambulance Services are operated by the County Council. Transport for the Sedgley population is directed and operated from the Coseley Ambulance Centre. For Infectious Diseases the Ambulance is provided by the Regional Hospital Board.

### LABORATORY FACILITIES

Pathological and Bacteriological examinations are made by the Public Health Laboratory Service in Stafford.

### CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

#### 1. The Quadrant, Sedgley—

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC

Friday morning fortnightly.

CHILD WELFARE CLINIC

Wednesday afternoon weekly.

SCHOOL CLINIC

Wednesday morning fortnightly.

SPEECH THERAPY

Tuesday all day weekly.

DENTAL CLINIC

Saturday morning weekly.

PHYSIOTHERAPY

Friday afternoon weekly.

#### 2. Bleakhouse, Upper Gornal—

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC

Friday morning fortnightly.

CHILD WELFARE CLINIC

Tuesday afternoon weekly.

SCHOOL CLINIC

Tuesday morning weekly.

EYE CLINIC

Periodically.

E.N.T. CLINIC

Periodically.

#### 3. Lower Gornal—

CHILD WELFARE CLINIC

Friday afternoon weekly.

SCHOOL CLINIC

Friday morning fortnightly.

The days and times at which Clinics are held are liable to alteration from year to year.



## GENERAL PUBLIC HEALTH

### FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955.

Previous to the coming in force of these Regulations leaflets were distributed to the various food businesses in order to acquaint themselves with the new requirements. All the regulations came into force on the 1st July, 1956, and with regard to these regulations the following food premises were seen by me personally during the year:—

S. Vinrace, Grocers, Bull Ring, Sedgley.  
 Co-operative Stores, High Street, Sedgley.  
 Messrs. Shaw, Grocers, Bilston Street.  
 Co-operative Stores, Kent Street, Upper Gornal.  
 Co-operative Stores, Temple Street, Lower Gornal.  
 Willetts, Clarence Street, Upper Gornal.  
 S. Vinrace, Kent Street, Upper Gornal.  
 Mason, Louise Street, Lower Gornal.  
 Hemmings, Abbey Street, Lower Gornal.  
 Clifton Cafe.  
 Lower Gornal Cafe.  
 Park Hotel, Goldthorn Park.  
 Goldthorn Park School.  
 Baggeridge Canteen.  
 Dormston School.  
 Alfred Allen & Son, Engineering Works, Deepdale Lane.  
 Gibbons Ltd., (Barfields) Canteen, Dibdale Road.  
 Gibbons Canteen, off Grosvenor Road.  
 Prima Engineering Works, Burton Road.

The following food premises were needing further attention:—

SHAW, GROCER, BILSTON STREET (27.9.56)—Lighting and ventilation of the sanitary convenience was poor. No locker accommodation had been provided. A sink with hot and cold water was available in the back room where due to ample window space light is abundant. The manager has been advised to have this room re-decorated and to use it as the foodroom as the other rooms behind the shop were too dark. As no First Aid Box was available he was also advised to procure one. A refrigerator is in use in the shop.

CO-OPERATIVE STORES, HIGH STREET (27.9.56)—Lighting and ventilation of the sanitary convenience was poor. A sink with hot and cold water is in use in the back room which could be modernised. The First Aid Box was adequately stocked. No refrigerator had been installed, and if cream, meat-pies or made up meats are being stored in considerable quantities refrigeration will be required. So far the sale of such foods has been negligible. Clothes are hung in the back room.

CO-OPERATIVE STORES, KENT STREET (27.9.56)—Lighting and ventilation in the sanitary conveniences was adequate and a wash basin is available in the Gents' lavatory. Legible Notices had also been fixed. A sink with hot and cold water is used in the messroom but it is advisable to have a handbasin nearer to the shop part of the premises. The First Aid Box was inadequate and the manager was advised to replenish it with bandages, gauze, cotton wool and an antiseptic. Clothes are hung in the mess room.

WILLETTS, CLARENCE STREET, UPPER GORNAL (4.10.56)—This shop was being rebuilt on modern principles and promised to become a most up to date place. There is good natural and artificial lighting in the sanitary convenience. However this convenience opens into a small compartment where the sink with hot and cold water has been installed. As it is more in conformity with regulations I have advised the manager to bring the sink and hot water geyser to the room immediately behind the shop. A small wash basin could then take the place of the sink. A Legible Notice had also to be fixed. As the only washing facilities in this particular case were situated in a place communicating with a lavatory no washing of equipment would be allowed in this sink, and as there is no other sink or basin, another sink or basin would have to be installed for this purpose. It would therefore be more economical to have the present sink moved behind the shop proper.

There was no locker accommodation but if clothes are hung in the compartment mentioned they could be closed off from the other rooms of the premises. The First Aid Box needed some elastoplast, bandage and an antiseptic. In the shop a cooling counter was being installed.

CO-OPERATIVE STORES, TEMPLE STREET, LOWER GORNAL (27.9.56) Lighting and ventilation of the sanitary conveniences was inadequate. Clothes are hung in the mess room of the butcher's shop. The First Aid Box needed replenishment and the manager was advised to procure cotton wool, gauze, bandages, and an antiseptic. A sink with hot and cold water was available only in the premises of the butcher's shop and for that reason was not within convenient distance from the stores. The manager was therefore advised to have a wash basin fixed in the room behind the shop. It would also be advisable to hang the clothes of people employed in the grocer's shop separate from those employed in the butcher's shop either in a separate compartment in the grocer's shop or in a locker.

LOWER GORNAL CAFE, WATER ROAD, LOWER GORNAL (11.10.56) Lighting and ventilation of the sanitary convenience were satisfactory but a Legible Notice was lacking. No hot water was available. We were informed that it would be installed. Clothes are hung in the



house. There was no First Aid Box and no cooling equipment. No perishable food is however stored, all food being cooked and sold immediately. It is of course necessary to have hot water installed as soon as possible. If cream, meat pies or made up meats are stored a cooling counter or refrigerator would be necessary.

ALFRED ALLEN & SON, LTD., ENGINEERING WORKS, DEEPDALE LANE (15.11.56)—The sanitary convenience for the kitchen staff is situated at some distance from the canteen. A Legible Notice had been fixed. Hot and cold water are available in the canteen kitchen which is further equipped with a sink, a First Aid Box and a large refrigerator. The sink however was made of wood instead of porcelain which is highly unsatisfactory. As only one sink is available it is furthermore necessary to have a wash basin installed. The whole canteen was very badly in need of redecorating. Two lockers had been provided for the storage of clothes and footwear.

GIBBONS LTD., (BARFIELDS) CANTEEN, DIBDALE ROAD (15.11.56) This canteen kitchen is rather small and crammed together. The sanitary convenience for the kitchen staff is situated away from the kitchen and has satisfactory lighting and ventilation. A Legible Notice had been fixed. The kitchen is provided with hot and cold water, a sink and a large refrigerator. First Aid equipment was available and clothing and footwear were not stored in the kitchen. As only one sink is available a washbasin is necessary.

GIBBONS CANTEEN, OFF GROSVENOR ROAD (15.11.56)—This place does no longer prepare meals, but acts as a distribution centre for meals sent from the Brierley Hill Urban District. It is therefore not preparing food. The sanitary convenience opens into a ventilated passage which in turn joins the kitchen which in itself is of better dimensions than the Barfield Canteen kitchen. A Legible Notice had been fixed. The kitchen is provided with hot and cold water, a sink, First Aid equipment and a large refrigerator. Clothing and footwear are stored in the sanitary compartment where a wash basin had been installed. A wash basin in the kitchen itself would be advisable.

PRIMA ENGINEERING WORKS, BURTON ROAD (15.11.56)—The lavatory for the kitchen staff is situated at some distance from the kitchen and a complaint was made regarding the inconvenience caused by this arrangement. The canteen kitchen is provided with hot and cold water, one sink and First Aid equipment. There is no refrigerator available which is advisable for a kitchen catering for about 30 people. As there was only one sink available a wash basin is further required. Locker accommodation had been provided for clothing and footwear.

## SCHOOL KITCHENS

Since the closure of the Civic Restaurant in Sedgley, school meals are provided as follows:—

Goldthorn Park School	..	from own kitchen.
Robert Street School		
Infants Department	..	from Locarno School, Tipton.
other Departments	..	from Wallbrook County Primary School, Coseley.
Red Hall School		
All Departments	..	from Locarno School, Tipton.
Upper Gornal School		
All Departments	..	from Oakham School, Tividale.
Queen Victoria School		
Infants Department	..	from Goldthorn Park School.
Other Departments	..	from Hill Avenue County Primary School, Wolverhampton.
Dormston School	..	from own kitchen.
Roman Catholic School	..	from Goldthorn Park School.

The only two school kitchens situated in the Sedgley Urban District are therefore those of the Goldthorn Park and Dormston Schools.

**DORMSTON SCHOOL (8.11.56)**—This kitchen has been seen by me on many occasions. The sanitary convenience had been rebuilt as indicated in my Annual Report for the year 1955 and a wash-basin has been provided in the compartment next to the lavatory. Clothes are hung in this compartment. Notices had also been fixed. First Aid equipment was available and a large refrigerator is in use for storage of perishable foods. A complaint was made about the leakage of water on to the floor of the lavatory and through the overflow pipe of the boiler cistern. These matters were therefore brought to the notice of the County School Medical Officer.

**GOLDTHORN PARK SCHOOL, GOLDTHORN PARK (8.11.56)**—This School was mentioned in my Annual Report of the year 1954. I was



glad to be informed that plans are in existence to have the coke heater moved out of the kitchen. This would prevent the generation and distribution of dust in the kitchen during the stoking process. A complaint was made regarding the locker accommodation as only an ordinary cupboard with shelves had been supplied for the purpose. This necessitated the storing of clothes and shoes belonging to each member of the staff on the shelf allocated to that member. Consequently when shoes became wet and muddy the shelves were soiled and the clothes which had to be folded up had great difficulty in drying. A wash basin had been provided in the compartment next to the lavatory and in all further respects the kitchen complied with the regulations. I have drawn the attention of the County School Medical Officer to the above mentioned complaint.

It appears that viewing the matter in general a great deal of attention has to be given by the Health Department to Food Businesses to bring them up to the standards prescribed by the Regulations, and this aspect of Public Health should be pursued with vigour. Unfortunately the new regulations are ambiguous on many details and only meet hygienic requirements up to a certain point. They will not establish a clear standard of Food Hygiene throughout the country. Neither do they provide for the rebuilding or alteration of food premises long out of date, whereas requirements such as the provision of "suitable and sufficient hand basins on or about the premises in a position conveniently accessible", are extremely vague and too much left to individual assessment. Section 25 of the Regulations is particularly confusing as its interpretation implies that the foods mentioned in this section have to be brought above 145°F or below 50°F unless exposed for sale. As soon as the shop is closed such foods or any foods which are not visible to the public, should therefore be heated or cooled to the required temperatures. Furthermore if foods mentioned in Sec. 25 have been contaminated and are exposed in a warm sunny window long enough all conditions have been fulfilled to stimulate profuse bacterial growth and which in turn could lead to food poisoning. We should however aim at the highest standards of Food Hygiene even with imperfect legislation. The Marchioness of Reading mentioned in the Inaugural Address to the Health Congress at Blackpool in 1956, that food display in retail shops and the packaging was a very primitive affair by transatlantic standards and women being the purchasing public of food could and should insist on higher standards. Compared with the United States, Canada, the Scandinavian Countries and Switzerland we were lagging far behind. The criticism raised in the Inaugural Address was highly constructive and should give the initiative to place Britain on the same high standards of Food Hygiene which are obtaining in the countries mentioned above.



### HEALTH CENTRES

No Health Centres have been built in the Sedgley Urban District during the reporting year. At present there are three Infant Welfare Centres in the Urban District, at The Quadrant, Bleakhouse and at the rear of the Zoar Chapel which are also used as Clinic Centres. The most unsatisfactory of these Centres is the Lower Gornal Welfare Centre. In reality it is a youth centre adapted in a primitive way to form an Infant Welfare Centre or Clinic as the occasion demands. With regard to future development in the Lower Gornal area it is essential that first consideration be given to the building of Clinic accommodation in Lower Gornal. Negotiations regarding the acquisition of a plot of land in Bull Street for the building of a new Centre proceeded during the year, and in the month of March, 1957, the Public Health Committee was informed that the County Architect had submitted a formal planning application for consideration by the Applications Sub-Committee.

Negotiations for the purchase of the lands required were being carried out by the District Valuer.

Infant Welfare Centres have been earmarked in:—

1. Dudding Road, Goldthorn Park.
2. Land adjoining Ladies Walk, High Holborn, Sedgley.

### CARAVAN DWELLERS

In the Annual Report for the year 1955 the joint meeting was mentioned which was held by the Sedgley and Brierley Hill Councils in order to consider the problem of Caravan Dwellers in the light of a report made by the County Planning Department on the nomadic problem. The conclusions reached by the joint committee were also quoted. Nothing further of any consequence has transpired since and the only subsequent developments have been:—

1. A small site has been reserved in the County Development Plan and on the Sedgley Town Map as a site for a small number of Caravans for gypsies and other nomads, on land adjoining Bagleys Lane.
2. Sedgley and Brierley Hill were asked if they would like to meet the County for a further discussion of the matter and whether they would be prepared to undertake a "pilot scheme". As the County however were not in a position to indicate whether the other Authorities concerned with the problem would be agreeable to do anything in the matter, Sedgley and Brierley Hill decided that at present no useful purpose would be served in pursuing the matter further with the County.

A word of praise should be given to the Sedgley and Brierley Hill Councils as the first Authorities who were willing to face the

problem squarely and to have taken the initiative in the matter. It is to be hoped that in course of time the other Authorities concerned will have found a suitable medium of co-operating in the nomadic problem which is too large to be tackled by two authorities only.

I am indebted to the Clerk of the Council for much of the information given above.

### DYSENTERY

A case of Dysentery was notified to us on the 9th July, 1956, by the Little Bromwich Hospital. The patient's home was in Upper Gornal. This case had been treated in Wordsley Hospital four weeks before admission to the Dudley Road Hospital, Birmingham on the 6.7.56 where the diagnosis was made. On the 8.7.56 it was transferred to the Little Bromwich Hospital.

### SALMONELLA ENTERITIS

A case of Salmonella Enteritis was seen by me on the 11.7.56 in Goldthorn Park. No other members of the family were affected and the child was up and about when I visited the home after receiving a telephone message from the Public Health Laboratory in Stafford.

### POLIOMYELITIS

No cases of Poliomyelitis occurred in the Urban District during the year. Vaccinations for Poliomyelitis were started in the month of May.

### FOOD POISONING

No cases of Food Poisoning were notified in the Urban District in 1956.

### CASES ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL

The total number of cases admitted to Hospital for Infectious Diseases were:—

#### *Moxley Hospital—*

Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	1
Tonsillitis	..	..	..	..	..	1
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	1
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	..	..	..	..	..	1
Gastro Enteritis	..	..	..	..	..	2
Broncho Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	5

#### *Little Bromwich Hospital—*

Sonne Dysentery	..	..	..	..	..	1
-----------------	----	----	----	----	----	---

*Haley Green Hospital, Halesowen—*

Pneumonia .. .. .	1
Gastro Enteritis .. .. .	1

*Stallings Lane Hospital, Kingswinford—*

Scarlet Fever .. .. .	3
-----------------------	---

*Children's Hospital, Birmingham—*

Meningococcal Meningitis .. .. .	1
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**SWABS AND SPECIMENS** submitted to the Public Health Laboratories:—

Throat Swabs .. .. .	4
Nose Swabs .. .. .	2
Swab from Tonsil .. .. .	1
Specimen of Urine .. .. .	1
Faeces .. .. .	1
Sputa Swabs .. .. .	187
Cultures for Myco-Tuberculosis .. .. .	102

**SEDGLEY MASS RADIOGRAPHY**

The Dudley Mass Miniature Radiography Service visited the Sedgley Urban District on the 8th August and the following report was received by the Medical Director of the Mass Radiography Service:—

A total of 1,220 persons were X-rayed in the following groups:

<i>Groups</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Public .. .. .	297	329	626
Organised .. .. .	381	207	588
Doctors' cases .. .. .	4	2	6
<b>TOTAL ..</b>	<b>682</b>	<b>538</b>	<b>1,220</b>

Of these, 46 were recalled for large films and 20 for clinical examination by the Medical Director in the following groups:—

Public group ..	36 large films	17 clinical
Organised group	10 large films	3 clinical

Results:—

*Tuberculous conditions*

4 cases were referred to the Chest Clinic as possibly Active Tuberculosis (all from Public Session at the Memorial Hall, Lower Gornal) = 3.3 per thou.

*Non-Tuberculous conditions*

5 cases were referred to the Chest Clinic:—

Pneumonia .. .. .	1
Pneumoconiosis .. .. .	1
Fibrosis .. .. .	2
? Neoplasm .. .. .	1



10 cases received other action:—

Heart conditions	..	..	..	..	3
Fibrosis	..	..	..	..	1
Pneumoconiosis	..	..	..	..	5
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	1

The total population surveyed was 1,220 in 1956 as against 1,602 in 1954. We also find that 626 cases of the General Public were taken in 1956 as against 680 in 1954.

### **PROPAGANDA DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION**

As in previous years we have continued to avail ourselves of the opportunity given by the Central Council of Information to place advertisements in the local press in order to stimulate Diphtheria Immunisation. Three advertisements will therefore be placed in the "Express and Star" on 8th January, 6th February and 7th March, 1957.

### **PROPAGANDA POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION**

In the month of March without my knowledge and consent, posters were distributed both in the Sedgley and Tettenhall Clinics creating the impression on the public that the Area Medical Officer was also the Medical Officer of Health of the Sedgley and Tettenhall Urban Districts. The Area Office was immediately informed that such false advertising could not be tolerated. A second batch of posters was issued now creating the impression on the local populations that no information could be obtained from the local Health Departments with regard to Poliomyelitis Vaccination but only from the Child Welfare Clinics or the Area Health Office in Brierley Hill. The dispute was therefore submitted to both the Sedgley and Tettenhall Health Committees where the matter was subsequently dealt with and rectified. The whole procedure regarding the distribution and wording of the posters was conspicuous by the complete absence of consultation with the local Health Departments.

### **SEDGLEY MORTUARY**

The Mortuary was inspected by me on the 29th November and the impression gained was that it would be no luxury to have new mortuary accommodation altogether. Although the present accommodation is clean and well kept the mortuary lacks practically all modern conveniences and equipment. Heating of the mortuary is provided by an old fashioned fire place. The floor is not tiled and drainage connects up with a septic tank. The wash basins are too small and lighting is very primitive and insufficient. There is no refrigeration installation to preserve bodies in case post mortem examinations cannot be carried out immediately or in case more than one body has to be admitted simultaneously to the mortuary. There is no doctors' room, viewing room or ante-room for relations who

may have to identify bodies. No sanitary convenience has been provided and the water supply, heated by a geyzer consists of two taps only. No douching facilities for the cleansing of the mortuary slab or examination slab are available. There is no channelling of the floor draining towards the septic tank, and the room is narrow and in need of further ventilation during the summer.

The situation of the mortuary is altogether undignified as it stands in the Council yard built on to storerooms and surrounded by building material. To the religious the site will appear devoid of all sacredness connected with death, and to the non-religious it will appear incongruous. In the year 1953/54 the number of post mortems held was 19, in 1954/55 the number was again 19, and in 1955/56 the number rose to 24.

A strong recommendation for the provision of new and up to date Mortuary accommodation was therefore made to the Health Committee in the December meeting, and the provision of a new mortuary was included by the Finance Committee in the 1957/58 Estimates.

#### **GENERAL MEASURES**

School notifications of infectious diseases are received by the Health Department and carefully studied for any features necessitating prompt action and location.

When desirable the schools are disinfected while terminal disinfection of premises and articles which have been exposed to infection is carried out in all cases of Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever, Tuberculosis, Cancer and other cases of long standing disease.

Disinfection is attained by the use of formaldehyde lamps and disinfection fluid.

#### **DISINFECTION OF CONTAMINATED CLOTHING AND BEDDING**

An arrangement exists with the Dudley, Stourbridge and District Hospital Board for the disinfection of contaminated clothing and bedding if the need should arise.

#### **NATIONAL INSURANCE ACT, 1948, Section 47.**

No cases were removed under Section 47 of the above mentioned Act during the reporting year.

#### **CLEARANCE AREAS**

No Official Representations were made by the Medical Officer of Health in the year 1956. On the 6th December, 1955, Official Representation was made with regard to the Duke Street and Holloway Street Nos. 1 and 2 Clearance Areas, comprising in total 23 houses with 76 inhabitants. The Kent Street Nos 1 and 2 Clearance Areas and the Hermit Street Clearance Area, confirmed in previous years, comprise together 69 houses with 225 inhabitants.

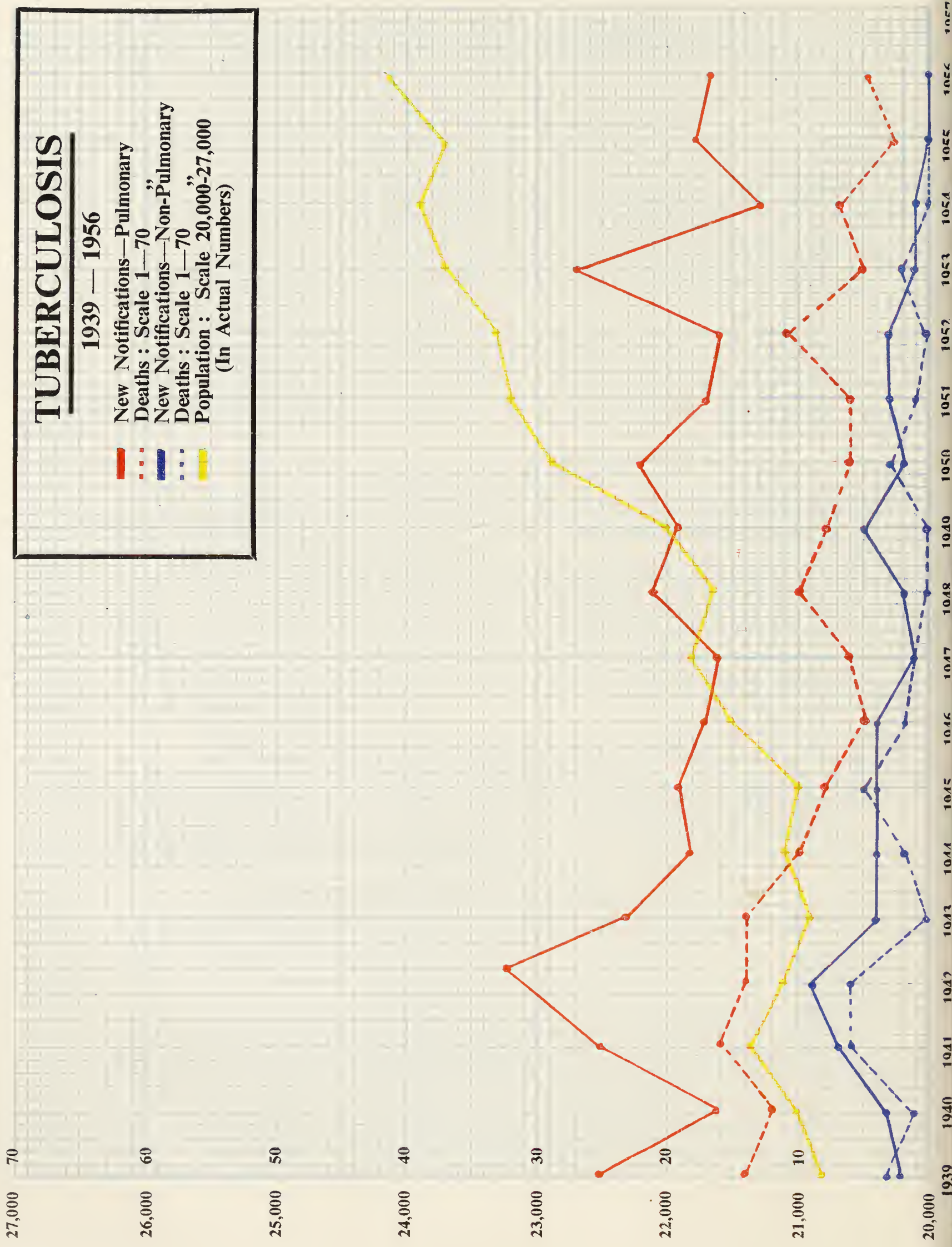




# TUBERCULOSIS

1939 — 1956

- New Notifications—Pulmonary
- - -●- - - Deaths : Scale 1—70
- New Notifications—Non-Pulmonary
- - -●- - - Deaths : Scale 1—70
- Population : Scale 20,000-27,000  
(In Actual Numbers)



## TUBERCULOSIS

The number of new cases notified for the year was 17 pulmonary as against 18 pulmonary in 1955.

AGE PERIODS	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Respiratory		Other	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 2 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2 to 4 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 to 9 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 to 14 years	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 to 19 years	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 to 24 years	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 to 34 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 to 44 years	—	2	—	—	1	1	—	—
45 to 54 years	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 to 64 years	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 years and over	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
	10	7	—	—	4	1	—	—

Deaths are in relation to the total number of notified cases on the Register.



### **TUBERCULOSIS REHOUSING**

As in previous years I am extremely indebted to the Housing Committee for the most efficient way they have dealt with the rehousing of Tuberculous patients. At the end of the year there were only two cases on the waiting list one of which was an applicant residing outside the Urban District. By a prompt rehousing the Committee is doing invaluable work from a preventive point. In this respect the Urban District is fortunate to have a Housing Committee which fosters the interests of Tuberculous patients unfailingly, compared with Authorities where a far less happy state exists.

### **TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER**

At the end of the year our Register counted 137 cases of pulmonary and 11 cases of non-pulmonary Tuberculosis.

### **PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, Section 172**

No action had to be taken under Section 172 of the above mentioned Act during the year.

## HOUSING

Houses completed during the period 1st January to 31st December, 1956, were:—

### Municipal—

Summit Place	..	..	..	20 Flats
Gibbons Hill Road	..	..	..	23 Flats
Stickley Lane	..	..	..	104
Gorge Road	..	..	..	96
Monument Lane	..	..	..	18

				—	261
Private Houses	..	..	..	..	142

making the total Municipal Houses completed since the war 1,455 and the total private houses completed since the war 500.

During the year the Stickley Lane, Monument Lane and the Vista estates were completed whereas the Gorge Road Estate was nearing completion.

A start was made with the building of the Cinder Road Estate consisting of 46 houses.

142 Private Houses were completed with 188 Private Houses under construction on the 31st December, 1956. The Brownswall Estate providing 100 dwelling houses and the Wallows Wood Estate of 64 houses were started in 1956. The latter Estate is nearing completion.

A pumping station with duplicate ejectors has been constructed to deal with Foul Water Sewerage.

In the Urban District some flats have been built of the bed-sitting room type for aged people but on the whole there is little demand for this type of accommodation.

The Housing Application List has shown a reduction from 1,105 applicants in 1955 to 938 applicants in 1956. No reductions have been effected by revisions of the housing lists or by other measures.

In the opinion of the Health Department Improvement Grants will not make a considerable proportion of old property fit and there have always been difficulties in getting owners to repair their houses under the Public Health Acts.

It is inadvisable that undertakings by property owners given under Sec.11 of the Housing Act are accepted when they are inadequate as this happened with two properties in Clarence Street and Dudley Road. These properties were reported unfit for human habitation by the Medical Officer of Health and have remained unfit. By accepting an insufficient undertaking no further action can be taken and tenants of such properties are condemned to live

in unfit property for a further number of years. Although there is no statutory time limit after which renewed action can be taken against the owner it is certainly advisable that such action should be deferred for at least two years. Direct enquiries were received from the Ministry of Health regarding the matter.

Further problems arise with the rehousing on medical grounds of families who live in a future clearance area. It is the policy not to rehouse people from future clearance areas until these areas are being dealt with and this is a wise policy, as by rehousing such tenants, other tenants who take their place may in turn clamour for better accommodation and consequently such properties can become transit stations for continuous rehousing. A certain flexibility is however necessary with disease as in urgent cases applicants cannot wait for a number of years without experiencing a severe deterioration in their health.

The same flexibility is required for the points system itself as it is obvious that a case of severe cardiac decompensation is a far more serious condition with immediate danger to life than for instance a mild or convalescent case of tuberculosis. As in housing, there are in matters of disease serious pitfalls in the awarding of fixed priorities and urgent medical cases can only be assessed individually and should receive individual consideration.

With regard to problem families such families must be given a chance to improve themselves and should be housed in old property which nevertheless provides the facilities to live cleanly and hygienically. It certainly will not improve such families by housing them in property without running water in the house and without a bathroom, suitable kitchen accommodation or all necessary appliances and facilities which enable people to live hygienically. The object is to improve and not to penalise.

### Housing Act, 1949

### Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954

### Improvement Grants

Year ended 31st December, 1956

Number of applications dealt with	Number of applications refused	Number of applications withdrawn	Number granted		Total value of works involved	Total value of grants
			Owner/ Occupiers	Others		
9	0	0	4	5	£2,556.16.6	£1,278.8.3



SLUM CLEARANCE — PROGRESS STATEMENT. PART A — INDIVIDUAL ACTION.

I.—CATEGORIES OF PROPERTIES INVOLVED.

		<i>Grand Totals</i>
(1)	Individual Demolition Orders, Closing Orders made and Undertakings of all kinds accepted since 1/1/37 .. .. .	337
(2)	Proportion of above included in Closing Orders; Undertakings not to use for habitation; and Undertakings to make fit .. .. .	66
(3)	†Total Demolition Orders made and included in (1) above .. .. .	†271
(4)	Total number of Orders, etc. made and included in (1) above dealt with between 1937 and 2nd November, 1955 .. .. .	302
(5)	Total number of Orders, etc. made and included in (1) above dealt with between 2nd November, 1955, and 31st December, 1956 .. .. .	35
		337

II.—DISPOSAL OF PROPERTIES UNDER DEMOLITION ORDER.

(6)	Total houses included in (3) above which have been demolished .. .. .	219
(7)	Total houses included in (3) above which are vacant and are awaiting demolition .. .. .	36
(8)	*Total houses included in (3) above which are still occupied .. .. .	255 *16
		†271
(9)	Total families re-housed by Council from houses included at (3) above— (a) Before 2/11/55 .. .. . (b) After 2/11/55 .. .. .	231 24
		255 *16

NOTE—† These figures should agree.  
\* These figures should agree.

PART B — CLEARANCE OR OTHER GROUP ACTION

	Clearance Progress				Rehousing Progress				
	De-molished	Vacated and await-ing De-molition	Still Occu-pied	Total	Rehoused by Council		Await-ing re-housing by Council	Rehoused privately or awaiting private housing or not re-housed by Council for other reasons	Total
					Before 2/11/55	After 2/11/55			
(10) Houses included in Monument Lane Compulsory Purchase other than 8 (Hartlands) included in (1) above . . . .	9	Nil	1	10	9	Nil	Nil	1	10
(11) Houses included in Cricket Meadow Compulsory Purchase Order also not included in (1) above . .	Nil	16	Nil	16	2	11	Nil	3	16
(12) Pink Houses included in Hermit Street C.P.O. . .	2	16	Nil	18	8	10	Nil	Nil	18
(13) (a) Pink Houses included in Kent Street C.P.O.	Nil	22	4	26 } 12 }	Nil	26	8	4	38
(b) Grey Houses included in Kent Street C.P.O.	Nil	5	7						
	11	59	12	82	19	47	8	8	82

31st December, 1956.

## WATER

The Sedgley Urban District, with the exception of the Goldthorn Park area, is supplied by the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company. The Goldthorn Park area receives its supply from the Wolverhampton Corporation Water Undertaking.

I am indebted to Mr. R. A. Robertson, B.Sc., M.Inst.C.E., and to Mr. Brian L. McMillan, B.Sc., M.Inst.C.E., the respective Engineers in Chief of the undermentioned undertakings, for the following information.

### (a) South Staffordshire Waterworks Company

- (i) The water supply to the area has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity.  
Sedgley district is supplied with water from service reservoirs at Dudley, the supply to which can be maintained from four pumping stations in the Smestow Valley and two pumping stations near Lichfield.
- (ii) The greater part of the water supplied to Sedgley comes from two of the Smestow Valley Stations. Chlorination is practised at both Stations but owing to practical difficulties, samples of the raw water are not obtainable. During 1956, 195 samples of the chlorinated water from the two supplying stations were all free from coliform bacteria. Samples of the supply within the Authority's boundaries were obtained from:—

Sedgley Tank No. 1.  
Sedgley Tank No. 2.  
Sedgley Reservoir.  
Waterman's house, Sedgley.

During 1956, 28 samples from Sedgley Tanks, 16 from Sedgley Reservoir and 16 from the Waterman's house were all free from coliform bacteria.

The average results for 1956 of the 16 samples from the Waterman's house, Sedgley, were:—

pH	.. .. .	7.1			
Alkalinity (CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	.. .. .	80	parts	per	million
Chlorides (Cl)	.. .. .	34.9	"	"	"
Ammoniacal Nitrogen (N)	.. .. .	Trace	"	"	"
Albuminoid Nitrogen (N)	.. .. .	Trace	"	"	"
Oxidised Nitrogen (N)	.. .. .	2.8	"	"	"
Oxygen Absorbed					
	(3 hr. at 27°C)	.12	"	"	"
Temporary Hardness	.. .. .	74	"	"	"
Permanent Hardness	.. .. .	59	"	"	"



Total Hardness	..	..	133	..	..	..
Iron (Fe)	..	..	.03	..	..	..
Manganese (Mn)	..	..	Nil	..	..	..
Zinc (Zn)	..	..	Nil	..	..	..
Poisonous Metals (Cu & Pb)			Nil	..	..	..
Free Cl	..	..	Nil	..	..	..

- (iii) The waters are not liable to plumbo-solvency, the 16 samples from the waterman's house being all free from any detectable quantity of lead.
- (iv) Chlorination is practised at most of the pumping stations as a precautionary measure.  
In cases of possible contamination in the event of burst or damaged mains, emptying reservoirs, etc., emergency chlorination is performed. Special apparatus and staff are available for this work. New mains, etc., are not brought into use until the water has been examined and pronounced satisfactory.
- (v) The following are particulars of the number of houses supplied and the approximate population:—

	<i>Houses</i>	<i>Persons</i>
(a) with internal supply ..	6,246	23,422
(b) with tap in wash house detached from house ..	567	1,699
(c) with taps in yards ..	27	
	<hr/> 6,840	<hr/> 25,121

**Note:** The population for item (a) is calculated on a basis of 3.75 persons per house.  
(b) and (c) are calculated on a basis of 2.86 persons per house.

## (b) Wolverhampton Corporation Water Undertaking

The water supplied by the Wolverhampton Corporation Water Undertaking to the Goldthorn Park area is derived from a number of sources of supply and the relative properties depend on the part of the district and varying circumstances.

- (i) The water supply in the area has been satisfactory in quantity and quality.

- (ii) The following is a summary of the Bacteriological examination of water going into distribution.

Number of samples taken	Presumptive Coli-aerogenes per 100 ml.			
	0	1—2	3—10	Over 10
836	808	19	6	3
Percentage of samples taken	96.6	2.3	0.7	0.4

- (iii) The water supplied is not liable to have plumbo-solvent action.
- (iv) There has been no known contamination of the water supply after leaving the works.
- (v) The number of dwelling houses in the Goldthorn Park area supplied direct is 907 and the population thereof estimated at 3,174. None is supplied by stand pipe.
-

## SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

I am indebted to your Surveyor, Mr. W. M. Jones, B.Sc.(Eng.), A.M.I.C.E. for the following report:—

### Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

“During the year 1956, premises in Vale Street were connected to the foul sewer, but this was the only extension carried out to the foul sewerage of the District.

Many more private houses have been built during the year in areas not served with foul sewerage, and the work of emptying cesspools has therefore greatly increased with a corresponding increase in the cost of this service. The Council propose, subject to the approval of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, to lay foul sewers in the Cotwallend and Catholic Lane areas, so that the recently built property there can be taken off cesspools.

The third and final stage of the Goldthorn Park surface water drainage has been approved by the Ministry and it is expected to be carried out early in 1957.

With regard to Sewage Disposal, the scheme for the extension of the Lower Gornal Works is well in hand and is likely to be submitted to the Ministry early in 1957. Dudley Corporation have constructed their outfall sewer from the Old Park to Lower Gornal Disposal Works and building work is about to commence on that Estate.

Considerable development is anticipated in the area of Straits Green during 1957, and pending the coming into operation of the extended scheme, certain urgent works must be carried out in the Spring of 1957 to cope with the ever increasing flow. These works will comprise sludge drying beds and sludge pump, as it is considered that if the existing sedimentation tank can be emptied of sludge much more frequently, the quality of the effluent will not deteriorate too badly.

Conditions at Gospel End Disposal Works are not good and the Council propose to have a scheme prepared to extend and modernise these Works. Considerable private development now taking place on Estates, north and south of Gospel End Road will necessitate very early extension at these Works.

### Public Conveniences

It is regrettable that during the year, considerable wilful damage was done to all the Public Conveniences. Doors are fre-



quently burst open and coin-locks removed, windows are broken and pipes torn away from walls. The Public Works Committee may consider the advisability of fixing gates to all 'conveniences and locking these at about 9.30 p.m. as it appears most damage occurs after that time.

### **MUNICIPAL CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM**

Burials in the Gornal Wood Cemetery during the year have been very few, no doubt due to space still being available in Church and Chapel graveyards.

Mr. Rouse, the Superintendent and Registrar, has greatly increased the beauty of the surroundings by skilled planting and arrangement of shrubs and borders.

Work has commenced on the access road and site works for the New Crematorium, to the North of the Cemetery, and the site should be prepared ready for the Crematorium itself by the Spring of 1957".

### **SANITARY INSPECTION**

The systematic inspection of the district has been carried out in an efficient manner.

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## SUMMARY OF THE WORK OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR 1956

### Inspections

Ashbins	..	..	..	..	..	..	26
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	32
Canteens and Cafes			..	..	..	..	77
Caravan sites	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Chemical closets		..	..	..	..	..	4
Cesspools	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Council house inspection	..		..	..	..	..	3
Drainage	..	..	..	..	..	..	48
Dirty houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	18
Demolition and Closing Orders	..			..	..	..	113
Fried Fish Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	80
Factories	..	..	..	..	..	..	64
Farms	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Food Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	701
Housing Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	36
Ice-cream	..	..	..	..	..	..	146
Improvement Grants	..	..	..	..	..	..	95
Infectious Disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Interviews	..	..	..	..	..	..	69
Insect Control	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Letting of Council Houses	..		..	..	..	..	552
Licensed premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	69
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	..	101
Meat Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Public Cleansing	..	..	..	..	..	..	100
Public Health Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	169
Re-inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	779
Rats and mice destruction			..	..	..	..	30
Smoke Abatement	..	..	..	..	..	..	109
Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,009
Sheds	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Tents and Vans	..	..	..	..	..	..	19
Water Samples	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Upper Gornal Redevelopment	..		..	..	..	..	165
Lower Gornal Redevelopment	..		..	..	..	..	5

## Notices Served

<i>Act</i>	<i>Number of Informal Notices</i>	<i>Number of Statutory Notices</i>
<b>PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936</b>		
Section 39 (Drainage) .. .. .	6	1
„ 45 (Defective Closets) .. .. .	22	6
„ 58 (Dangerous Buildings) .. .. .	2	—
„ 75 (Dustbins) .. .. .	45	60
„ 93 (Nuisances) .. .. .	39	5
<b>HOUSING ACT, 1936</b>		
Section 9 (Repairs) .. .. .	—	—
„ 11 (Time and Place) .. .. .	—	31
„ 12 (Closure Part of Buildings) .. .. .	—	—
<b>PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 (SEC. 138) AND WATER ACT, 1945 (SEC. 30)</b>		
(Provision of water to dwelling houses)	3	—
<b>FACTORIES ACT, 1937</b>		
Section 7 (Sanitary accommodation) .. .. .	13	—
<b>HOUSING ACT, 1949</b>		
Section 3 (1) Closing Orders .. .. .	—	—
„ 3 (2) Substitution of Demolition Orders .. .. .	—	—
<b>LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS ACT, 1953)</b>		
Section 10 (Closing Orders) .. .. .	—	—
Notices served under other sections of the Public Health and Housing Acts .. .. .	47	—
Notices served under the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 .. .. .	163	—
Notices served under the Slaughterhouse and the Slaughter of Animals Acts .. .. .	12	—
Informal notices served under other statutes	16	—



As a result of both formal and informal notices the following works were carried out:—

### Dwelling Houses

Accumulations removed	..	..	..	..	3
Ashbins provided	..	..	..	..	62
Burst Pipes repaired	..	..	..	..	6
Ceilings repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	6
Ceilings whitewashed	..	..	..	..	3
Chimneys repaired	..	..	..	..	5
Dirty premises cleansed	..	..	..	..	3
Doors repaired	..	..	..	..	5
Drainage provided	..	..	..	..	15
Drainage cleared	..	..	..	..	8
Dry rot remedied	..	..	..	..	1
Firegrates repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	4
Floors repaired	..	..	..	..	7
House roofs repaired	..	..	..	..	21
Miscellaneous repairs	..	..	..	..	52
Plasterwork repaired	..	..	..	..	16
Paintwork renewed	..	..	..	..	3
Sink waste pipes repaired	..	..	..	..	6
Sinks provided	..	..	..	..	2
Spouting repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	10
Stairtreads repaired	..	..	..	..	5
Walls pointed or rebuilt	..	..	..	..	13
Washing boilers repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	1
Water supply re-introduced	..	..	..	..	7
W.C's. cleansed	..	..	..	..	6
W.C's. repaired	..	..	..	..	17
W.C. cistern repaired	..	..	..	..	3
W.C. provided	..	..	..	..	2
Windows repaired	..	..	..	..	17
Yard paving re-laid	..	..	..	..	1
Yards cleansed	..	..	..	..	8

### Food Premises

Food premises cleansed	..	..	..	..	25
Food preparing premises provided	..	..	..	..	1
Floors cleansed	..	..	..	..	2
Food hygiene offences abated	..	..	..	..	18
Heating in shops provided	..	..	..	..	2
Slaughterhouse defects remedied	..	..	..	..	14
Walls limewashed	..	..	..	..	14

## Proceedings

Court proceedings were instituted in the case of 22b, Windmill Street, when the defendants were fined £5 each and ordered to carry out the work within 14 days.

## Demolition and Closing Orders

HOUSING ACT, 1936		Number of houses	Number of persons displaced
1.	Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 11 .. .. .	24	73
2.	Houses closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by the owners under Section 11 and still in force	1	4
3.	Parts of buildings closed under Section 12 .. .. .	12	38
HOUSING ACT, 1949			
1.	Closing Orders under Section 3 (1)	—	—
2.	Demolition Orders determined and Closing Orders substituted under Section 3 (2) .. .. .	—	—

# Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953

Closing Orders made under Section 10 (1) — —

## Repairs

INFORMAL ACTION	Number of houses
1. Number of unfit or defective houses rendered fit during the period as a result of informal action by the Local Authority under the Public Health or Housing Acts .. .. .	69
ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS	
2. PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS	
Number of houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	
(a) by owners .. .. .	7
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners .. .. .	—
3. HOUSING ACT, 1936	
Number of houses made fit after service of formal notices (Sections 9, 10, 11 and 16) ..	
(a) by owners .. .. .	1
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners .. .. .	—



### **Shops Act, 1912—1950**

All shops were visited and all relevant provisions of the Act were adhered to. The following table gives the number of various shops and businesses situated in the Urban District:—

Chemists	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Stationers	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Drapers	..	..	..	..	..	..	23
Radio and Electrical Dealers	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Butchers	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
Greengrocers	..	..	..	..	..	..	23
General Dealers	..	..	..	..	..	..	72
Newsagents	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Hairdressers	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
Grocers	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
Post Offices	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Fried Fish Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Hardware	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Second Hand Furniture	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Ladies' and Men's Outfitters	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Confectioners	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Dry Cleaners	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Boot and Shoe Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Paint Stores	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Tobacconist	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Snack Bar	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Furniture Dealers	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Cycle Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Gas Showrooms	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Electrical Showrooms	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Watch Makers	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Boot and Shoe Repairers	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Wines and Spirits	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Corn and Seed Merchants	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Printers	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Cafes	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Number of Licenced Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	53

### **Pet Animals Act, 1951**

No applications have been received under the above mentioned Act.

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## FOOD PREMISES AND HYGIENE

The Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, came into force on the 1st July and gradually the time has arrived that the food premises in Sedgley should be brought to a uniform standard of hygiene. In the inaugural address of the Congress of the Royal Society of Health held in Folkstone in April, 1957, the President foreshadowed the issue of Codes of Practice by the Ministry of Health and such codes will form the basis of all Food Hygiene. Before the issue of the Codes of Practice in which, it is hoped, the many dubious points will be cleared up which at present cause so much confusion in the application of the regulations, progress can be made in the points which have been clearly defined. Attempts to escape through loop-holes of the regulations by those who are attempting to do a dis-service both to the Food Trade and to the Public will be foiled by Codes of Practice as these codes will have to be adopted as the national standard of Food Hygiene in the Country. We are convinced however that friendly discussion and persuasion will be sufficient to win food vendors to our side as during my own survey of food premises suggestions were usually readily taken and it appears in many cases that people in charge of food premises are not fully aware yet of the functioning of the regulations.

The Health Department has been most active in taking of samples of Ice Lollies and Ice-cream during the year and I am indebted to Mr. Anderson for his active co-operation and interest in this matter. The results of the samples taken which are given in the appropriate section of the report are on the whole satisfactory.

The following Food Premises are situated in the Urban District:—

Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	..	5
Food Preparing Premises (meat)	..	..	..	..	..	6
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	5
Cafes	..	..	..	..	..	3
Licensed Premises	..	..	..	..	..	53
Butchers' Shops	..	..	..	..	..	20
Greengrocers	..	..	..	..	..	23
General Dealers	..	..	..	..	..	72
Grocers	..	..	..	..	..	20
Fried Fish Shops	..	..	..	..	..	13
Confectioners	..	..	..	..	..	5
Snack Bars	..	..	..	..	..	1
Wholesale Merchants	..	..	..	..	..	1
Canteens	..	..	..	..	..	4
School Kitchens	..	..	..	..	..	6

6 premises have been registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the manufacture of meat products. In total 71 inspections were made to registered Food Premises during the year, 701 inspections to all Food Premises whereas 163 notices were served under the Food Hygiene Regulation, 1955.

No educational activities are in progress or have been started in the Sedgley Urban District, except education by personal contact.

Small pieces of condemned food are stained and removed from the slaughterhouses with other waste products. Large pieces are removed by Messrs. Ridge and Sons, Dudley.

Special examination of a stock or of a consignment of food has not been necessary during the year.

No Dairies or Ice Cream Manufacturers are established within the boundaries of the Sedgley Urban District Council.

## Meat

During the year the number of animals killed and inspected was as follows :—

Cattle	..	..	..	1,215
Pigs	..	..	..	4,605
Sheep	..	..	..	7,929
Calves	..	..	..	33



With regard to meat condemned as unfit for consumption the following table gives the general position.

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed .. ..	1,215	—	33	7,929	4,605
Number inspected .. ..	1,215	—	33	7,929	4,605
All diseases except Tuberculosis					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	—	—	3	8
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned .. ..	474	—	—	921	168
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis .. ..	39.1	—	—	11.6	3.8
Tuberculosis					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	—	—	—	4
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned .. ..	26	—	—	—	143
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis .. ..	2.2	—	—	—	3.2

The total weight of meat condemned during the year as unfit for human consumption was 7 tons 10 cwts. 2 qrs. 15 lbs.

### Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933

13 Full and 6 Provisional Licences were issued to Slaughtermen during the year authorising them to slaughter animals under the Act and the provisions of the Act regarding the humane slaughter of animals were carried out.

### Sampling of Food and Drugs

Samples of food taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, within this district during the year are detailed below. As this district is not the Food and Drugs Authority sampling of food is carried out by the County Council.

## Details of Milk and General Foods taken during 1956.

Article of Food	Number of samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
MILK .. ..	57	57	—
GENERAL FOODS ..	71	71	—

Details are set out as follows:—

**Milk**

Milk Pasteurised .. ..	15
Milk Sterilised .. ..	17
Milk T.T. .. ..	3
Milk T.T. Pasteurised .. ..	18
Milk T.T. Pasteurised Channel Island .. ..	4
	—
	57 <i>All genuine</i>
	—

**General Foods**

Number of samples taken .. ..	71
Number of samples genuine .. ..	71

**Classification of General Foods**

Pork Sausage Cont. pres (2 samples)	Cocoa
Tea (4 samples)	Easy Mix
Pastry Mix	Red Cabbage Pickle
Cake Flour	Peppermint Cordial
Mixed Spice (2 samples)	Curry Powder
Ground Ginger	Ground Cinnamon
Lard (2 samples)	Sponge Mix
Ground Nutmeg	Piccalilli
Butter (3 samples)	Marmalade
Megg	Chicken Luncheon Meat
Garden Peas	Spanish Honey & Butter Sweets
Beans with Tomato Sauce	Special Mint
Minced Beef Loaf (2 samples)	Luncheon Meat
Chicken Fillets	Honey
Red Salmon (2 samples)	Margarine
Pink Salmon	Cake Flour Mixture

Ham and Chicken Gelatine	Cheshire Cheese
Orange Squash (2 samples)	Blackcurrant Health Drink
Cooked Butter Beans	Biscuits (2 samples)
Blackcurrant Jam	Buttered Coconut Macaroons
Kwik Set	Marzipan
Corned Beef	Lime Juice Cordial
Meat Paste (Chicken & Ham)	Manderin Orange in syrup
Baking Powder	Chocolate Lime Sweets
Ground Coffee	Danish Butter
Dressed Crab	Peach halves in heavy syrup
Pickled Onions	Beetroot Orleans Wine Vinegar
Liquorice Bubble Gum	Mint of Vinegar
Malt Vinegar (2 samples)	Butter Mints

**Bacteriological Examination of Milk**

In addition 50 samples of milk were taken for bacteriological examination.

Designation	Number of samples submitted	Phenol phthalein		Phos-phatase		Turbi-dity		Methylene Blue	
		Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
Tuberculin Tested	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—
T.T. (Past.) ..	17	—	—	17	—	—	—	17	—
Pasteurised ..	13	—	—	13	—	—	—	13	—
Sterilised ..	13	—	—	—	—	13	—	—	—
Undesignated ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

**Biological Tests for Tuberculosis in Samples of Milk**

During the year 8 samples were submitted to the Biological Test for Tuberculosis and all proved negative.

Designation	Number	Negative	Positive
Tuberculin Tested (F.B.) .. ..	5	5	—
Pasteurised Undesignated ..	3	3	—



### Icecream

We give below the number of samples taken by the Sedgley Health Department during the year.

Grade I	..	..	47
Grade II	..	..	5
Grade III	..	..	1
Grade IV	..	..	1

### Ice Lollies

Bacteriological reports on Ice Lollies gave the following results.

Colony Counts			Coliform Content		
0—50 per cc	50—100 per cc	100—1,000 per cc	Over 1,000 per cc	Absent in 0.3 cc	Present in 0.3 cc
21	3	6	—	30	Nil

### Inspection of other Foods

Poultry was inspected during the month of December classified as follows:—

Fowl	..	..	..	2,775
Turkeys	..	..	..	2,519
Geese	..	..	..	185
Pheasant	..	..	..	120
Ducks	..	..	..	200
Condemned 15 fowl and 1 pheasant.				

In addition a table is given of foods condemned by the Department in 1956.

Tins of Meat	..	..	..	..	72
„ „ Fruit	..	..	..	..	35
„ „ Evap. Milk	..	..	..	..	25
„ „ Tomatoes	..	..	..	..	17
„ „ Fish	..	..	..	..	15
„ „ Peas	..	..	..	..	10
„ „ Beans	..	..	..	..	9
„ „ Stew	..	..	..	..	2
„ „ Soup	..	..	..	..	2

Tins of Cream	..	..	..	2
Tin of Scotch Broth	..	..	..	1
Meat Pies	..	..	..	47
Cod Fillet	..	..	..	2 stone
Halibut	..	..	..	1 stone 8 lbs.
Cheese ..	..	..	..	27 lbs.
Raisins ..	..	..	..	25 lbs.

### Milk Licences. Supplementary and Dealers.

The following licences were issued as tabulated below.

Pasteurised	Dealers	..	3	Supplementary	..	9
Sterilised	„	..	45	„	..	11
Tuberculin Tested	„	..	1	„	..	9

**FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.****Part 1 of the Act.****1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including Inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors).**

PREMISES	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .. ..	7	7	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .. ..	60	87	11	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' Premises) .. ..	9	10	1	—
Total ..	76	104	13	—

**2. Cases in which defects were found.**

PARTICULARS	No. of Cases in which Defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness .. ..	1	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences—					
(a) Insufficient .. ..	1	2	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	12	9	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) .. ..	—	1	—	—	—
Total ..	14	12	—	1	—

**Part VIII of the Act.****OUTWORK.**

	Section 110		
	Number of Out-Workers	Number of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	Number of prosecutions for failure to supply lists
Wearing Apparel (Making, etc.) ..	6	—	—
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper ..	2	—	—
Total ..	8	—	—



## Smoke Abatement

In the year 1954 the Sedgley Urban District Council approved the principle of smoke control areas in the Urban District on a voluntary basis and arrangements were made with the West Midland Gas Board regarding adequate supplies of coke.

There has been no change in the general position during the year and no complaints were received with regard to coke deliveries. The tenants of most council houses appear to continue the use of coal instead of burning coke in spite of the fact that new Council Houses have been fitted with approved grates for the burning of smokeless fuels. As in previous years excessive smoke has been emitted from

Burton Road Hospital

Baggeridge Colliery

W. H. Marsh and Son, Dudley Street, Sedgley.

Informal action was taken in these three cases.

The Clean Air Act was passed on the 5th of July, 1956, and several sections became operative at the latter end of the year. A smoke control area comprising 485 dwellings has been suggested to the Health Committee in the meeting of the 5th April, 1957, and the Ministry of Housing and Local Government has been informed of the Local Authority's decision in principle to declare a Smoke Control Area in part of Sedgley.

## Refuse Collection and Disposal

In the year 1956 tipping has continued on the five tipping sites at Humphrey Street and Musk Lane. No complaints were received regarding the tips during the year.

Refuse in the Urban District is collected once a week and the rate has been continued during the year. There has been no reduction in the number of men employed in refuse collection. Chemical Closets are emptied once or twice weekly according to the size of family and the position of the houses. Another 13 chemical closets were converted during the year, with a total of 98 unconverted closets remaining. The complete conversion of all chemical closets would be a great sanitary improvement. As it always has been very difficult to find staff for this type of work the rapid conversion of closets would further eliminate this problem. The two men who have been employed by the Urban District for many years have continued in their work of emptying chemical closets.

**Rodent Control**

For general purposes of Rodent Control Warfarin has been used whereas for sewer treatment alternative Zinc Phosphide and Arsenious Oxide treatments have been given. The sewers are treated twice yearly. Few baits were taken and re-infestation has only rarely occurred during the reporting year.

A table is given with regard to the treatments carried out in dwelling houses and other premises situated in the Urban District.

**Report for 12 months ending 31st March, 1957**

	Local Autho- rity	Dwelling Houses	All other including Business Premises	Total of Columns 1, 2 and 3	Agricul- tural
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's District	31	6,818	706	7,555	22
2. Number of properties in- spected:					
(a) Notification .. .. .	—	93	34	127	3
(b) Survey under the Act	31	—	12	43	22
(c) Otherwise ( <i>e.g.</i> , when visited primarily for some other purpose)	—	52	111	163	4
4. Number of properties in- spected (in Sec. 2) which were found to be infested by					
(a) RATS { Major ..	—	—	—	—	—
{ Minor ..	7	75	23	105	3
(b) MICE { Major ..	—	—	—	—	—
{ Minor ..	—	18	11	29	—
5. Number of infested pro- perties (in Sec. 4) treated by the Local Authority	7	93	34	134	3

### Insect Pests

Nothing has been reported with regard to Insect Pests. No trouble has been experienced in slaughterhouses, dwellinghouses or on refuse tips with excessive fly infestation.





